

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of monitoring welfare of a child in a welfare system using a case identification card and a computer system configured to track events occurring in the life of the child and interface with a plurality of stakeholders, the method comprising:

receiving child update information on the child from a reporter observing the child using the case identification card;

determining a location of the child via a location device in the proximity of the child;

storing the child update information and the location information of the child in the computer system;

receiving welfare benefit payment information related to the child, the welfare benefit payment information comprising information related to a benefit payment received from the welfare system for the child;

storing the welfare benefit payment information together with the child update information and the location information in the computer system;

integrating the child update information, the location information, and the welfare benefit payment information in the computer system such that the computer

system provides a centralized system for the plurality of stakeholders to monitor physical welfare and financial welfare of the child;

combining the child update information of a plurality of children in the welfare system; and

~~monitoring physical welfare and financial welfare of the plurality of children in the welfare system simultaneously;~~

analyzing the combined child update information of the plurality of children in the welfare system to facilitate securing additional new funding for the plurality of children in the welfare system.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the reporter information comprises at least one of a case identifier, a Personal Identification Number (PIN) of the reporter, a reporting terminal's identifier, and a GPS location of the reporting terminal.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the child status information comprises at least one of a health of the child, a status of the child, information about the child's environment, and a picture of the child.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the child update information comprises child status information and reporter information.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the computer system is configured to periodically scan the stored child update information to verify that child update information is being received on a periodic basis.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising generating a child alert if a predetermined time period passes without receiving the child update information.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising sending the child alert to the reporter.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising sending the child alert to the plurality of stakeholders if a second predetermined time period passes without receiving the child update information.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising processing payments based on the child update information.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising providing the case identification card to the child.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a scan of the case identification card.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the child update information is received using an interactive voice response system.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for monitoring welfare of a child in a welfare system, comprising a case identification card and a child services computer configured to track events occurring in the life of the child and interface with a plurality of stakeholders, the computer comprising:

a memory;

a database; and

a processor coupled to the memory and the database, the processor configured to:

receive child update information on the child from a reporter observing the child via the case identification card;

determine a location of the child via a location device in the proximity of the child;

store the child update information and the location information of the child in the database;

receive welfare benefit payment information related to the child, the welfare benefit payment information comprising information related to a benefit payment received from the welfare system for the child;

store the welfare benefit payment information together with the child update information and the location information in the database;

integrate the child update information, the location information, and the welfare benefit payment information to provide a centralized system for the plurality of stakeholders to monitor physical welfare and financial welfare of the child;

combine the child update information of a plurality of children in the welfare system; and

~~monitor physical welfare and financial welfare of the plurality of  
children in the welfare system simultaneously; and~~

analyze the combined child update information of the plurality of  
children in the welfare system to facilitate securing additional new funding for  
the plurality of children in the welfare system.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the reporter  
information comprises at least one of a case identifier, a Personal Identification Number  
(PIN) of the reporter, a reporting terminal's identifier, and a GPS location of the  
reporting terminal.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the child status  
information comprises at least one of a health of the child, a status of the child,  
information about the child's environment, and a picture of the child.

16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the child update  
information comprises child status information and reporter information.

17. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the processor is further configured to scan the stored child update information to verify that child update information is being received on a periodic basis.

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the processor is further configured to generate a child alert if a predetermined time period passes without receiving the child update information.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the processor is further configured to send the child alert to the reporter.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the processor is further configured to send the child alert to the plurality of stakeholders if a second predetermined time period passes without receiving the child update information.

21. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein the processor is further configured to process payments based on the child update information.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, further comprising a reader device for reading the case identification card associated with the child.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, further comprising a camera configured to obtain a photograph of the child associated with the case identification card.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the system further includes an interactive voice response system configured to receive the child update information.